Non-functional X-Ray machines at airports

727. DR. M.A.M. RAMASWAMY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken by Government to safeguard the airport installations in the country;

(b) whether Government are aware that X-ray machines installed at the airports are not functioning efficiently; and

(c) if so, the action taken by Government to further safeguard the vital aviation installation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) Steps taken by Airports Authority of India (AAI) to safeguard the airport installations in the country *inter-alia* include deployment of CISF at airports for providing better security, installation of Close Circuit TV Surveillance System and X-Ray machines at airports for screening of cabin and hand baggage of passengers and provision of both the Door Frame and Hand Held Metal Detectors for screening of persons entering airports.

(b) No, Sir. X-ray machines provided at airports are functioning satisfactorily. Faults, if any, are attended on priority to ensure trouble-free functioning of X-ray machines.

(c) Upgradation of Security is an ongoing process.

Development of infrastructure at airports

†728. SHRI RUDRA NARAYAN PANY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of airlines and aeroplanes presently operating in the country;

(b) how many passengers travel daily by air an average;

(c) whether Government are taking any steps in the direction of infrastructure development for the convenience of passengers in the airports keeping in view the revolution in air services; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.